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PR 610 Servant as Proclaimer

David L. Rambo

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ASBURY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

PR610

Spring 2001

Tuesday and Thursday 1:00-2:15 PM

David L. Rambo, Professor

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This beginning course in preaching will examine the context of preaching and present a methodology for expository, topical and narrative preaching. In addition to lectures and material from the required texts, it will examine the preaching via video tapes of nine (9) preachers of ten (10) who were recognized in 1996 by a Baylor University survey to be the best contemporary preachers in the English-speaking world. The purpose of these sermons is to observe critically as these preachers deliver their sermon(s), to note specifically what makes them excellent, to incorporate from their messages helpful guidance for one's preaching and to deliver three (3) sermons that reflect what they have learned. Additionally, students will critically evaluate a recognized preacher in the area by a personal visit. Other taped sermons will be made available for out-of-class listening.

RATIONALE

This course will introduce three (3) major kinds of preaching through lectures and textbook reading. It is also committed to the belief that preaching is best learned through practice under the evaluation of professor and fellow students.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To introduce the ingredients of narrative, topical and expository preaching.
2. To provide guidance in the preparation and delivery of sermons.
3. To increase awareness of the elements of good preaching.
4. To expose students to the world's best English-speaking preachers and to inspire them to set high standards for their preaching.
5. To introduce preaching from various traditions for broader understanding and appreciation.
6. To incorporate student's study of the original languages and hermeneutics to insure that sermons are faithful to the text.
7. To experience the life of a church in the Lexington area and to hear at least one (1) preacher of excellence in his setting.
8. To give opportunity for students to preach in class, incorporating what they have learned and to gain evaluation of their sermons.

COURSE READING

REQUIRED READING:

Craddock, Fred. PREACHING. Nashville: Abingdon, 1985.

Willhite, Keith and Gibson, Scott, Ed. THE BIG IDEA OF BIBLICAL PREACHING. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1998.

Note: You will be asked at the May interview if you have read these books.

RECOMMENDED READING:

Chapell, Bryan. CHRIST-CENTERED PREACHING. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1994.

Robinson, Haddon. BIBLICAL PREACHING. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1980.

Sine, Tom. MUSTARD SEED VS. MCWORLD. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1998.

Troege, Thomas H. IMAGINING A SERMON. Nashville: Abingdon, 1990.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Three-credit course

- A. Attendance at all classes
- B. Reading of two (2) texts by April 13 (preferably earlier)
- C. One page description of person, place, and thing for February 2, 2001
- D. Oral messages, writing and review
 - 1. Ten minute narrative message from a Biblical story
 - 2. Twelve to fifteen minute topical message (visual support recommended)
 - 3. Twelve to fifteen minute expository message (visual support recommended)
 - 4. Thirty minute interview with professor, May 14-17 (visual support recommended)
 - 5. Sermon presentations:

<u>Group One</u>	<u>Group Two</u>	<u>Group Three</u>	<u>Group Four</u>	<u>Group Five</u>
N- 3/8	3/13	3/15	3/20	3/22
T- 4/5	3/27	3/29	4/3	4/17
E- 4/26	5/1	4/19	4/24	5/3

(Also, note group date responsibility for video showing.)

- 6. Attend Southland Christian Church and give a one to two page critique of the service and sermon by Pastor Mike Breau

CLASS SCHEDULE

February 6

- A. Getting Acquainted. Review of syllabus
- B. Completing questionnaire about personal goals for preaching
- C. My journey in preaching

February 8

Lecture: The Vital Components in Preaching

February 13

Lecture: The Preparation and Delivery of the Message

February 15

Introducing the Expository Sermon

Group One will show John Stott's sermon as illustrative of an expository sermon followed by evaluation.

February 20

Group Two will present Barbara Brown Taylor's modified expository sermon. Comment on word descriptions.

Evaluation of Taylor's sermon. What warrants her selection as "one of the best preachers in the English-speaking world?"

Prepare a one-page description of a person, place or event to be presented in the February 22 class and submitted to the professor.

February 22

Presentation of one-page descriptions

The Case for a Narrative Sermon

February 27

Illustration of a narrative sermon

Group 3 will present Haddon Robinson's Best Preacher Sermon noting: (1) The Big Idea, (2) Subject/Complement, (3) Use of allowable imagination.

Evaluation of Robinson's sermon. What makes this sermon outstanding?

March 1

Introduction and evaluation of topical sermon

Group One will present William Willamon's topical sermon.

March 6

Group Two will present Gardner Taylor's topical sermon.

Evaluation of Taylor's sermon with recognition of the gift of the African-American pulpit to the art of preaching.

TRANSITION TO STUDENT PREACHING

March 8

Group One will present a 10 minute narrative sermon from a biblical story. Incorporate insights from Robinson's sermon.

Group evaluations will follow each sermon.

March 13

Group Two will present a 10 minute narrative sermon from a biblical story. Incorporate ideas from Robinson.

March 15

Group Three will present a 10 minute narrative sermon followed by evaluation.

March 20

Group Four will present a 10 minute narrative sermon from a biblical story.

March 22

Final person (Group 5) will preach a 10 minute narrative sermon from a biblical story.

Group Three will present Tom Long's sermon from a difficult text. What can I learn from this?

March 27

Group Two will present a 12-15 minute sermon using the topical approach followed by evaluation.

March 29

Group Three will present a 12-15 minute sermon using the topical approach followed by evaluation.

April 3

Group Four will preach a topical sermon followed by evaluation.

April 5

Group One will preach a topical message.

April 9-13 Spring Break: Textbook reading completed.

April 17

Final person (Group Five) will give their topical message.

Sermon by Fred Craddock followed by student evaluation

EXPOSITORY SERMONS

In the final series of preaching, students are urged to utilize visual support (PowerPoint, Outline, Visual Objects)

April 19

Group Three will preach a 12-15 minute message illustrating the expository method of preaching followed by group evaluation.

April 24

Group Three will preach an expository sermon followed by group evaluation.

April 26

Group One will preach an expository sermon followed by group evaluation.

May 1

Group Two will preach an expository sermon with visual support followed by group evaluation.

May 3

Group Five persons will preach with evaluation following.

Sermon by James Forbes if there is time

May 8

PRESIDENT MAXIE DUNNAM

May 10

Professor Virginia Bowles will lecture on the use and care of the voice for preaching.

May 14-17

Each student will meet for 30 minutes during the week with the professor for personal evaluation and guidance. Each student is responsible for scheduling this meeting in Beeson 140.